

**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
OF THE COUNTY OF KALKASKA – BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010 – 9:00 A.M.
KALKASKA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CHAMBERS**

ATTENDANCE

Directors Present

Mike Ascione
Aaron Bowron
Al Dimon
Lon Husbands
Jim Jesse
Al McCullen
Linda Wayne

Directors Absent

Frank Pflum

TBEDC Staff Present

Tino Breithaupt
Andi Wagenschutz

Public Present

Lou Nemeth
Jim Austin

BOC County Liaison

Deb Kimball

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chairman Jim Jesse. Roll was called. With the exception of Frank Pflum and Al McCullen all directors were present. Al McCullen later joined the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jim Jesse suggested moving the Election of Officers to after the Traverse Bay EDC Report and move Public Input after the Recovery Zone Bonds. This was favorable to all. Aaron Bowron requested that under Approval of Minutes “and special meeting held on January 5, 2010” be stricken. Minutes from this meeting were not included in the agenda packet, but will be added to the March agenda. Aaron Bowron moved to approve the agenda with corrections, supported by Linda Wayne. All yeas, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Aaron Bowron moved to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2009 meeting as presented with support by Al Dimon. All yeas, motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF BILLS

Jim Jesse presented a bill from the TBEDC to Linda Wayne. Linda Wayne provided the following financial report:

General Account: \$3,413.15 plus deposit of \$5,000.00 (expenses \$6,191.07) Balance \$2,222.08

FDA Savings Account: \$26,315.47 (\$13.36 interest for November, December and January; \$396.68 CD interest) Balance \$26,725.51.

Loan Account: \$25,530.69 (\$16.15 interest for November, December and January; \$311.06 loan payment from the Mill) Balance \$25,857.90

CD’s: \$56,045.65 matures 6/19/10 (earning 2.84% interest \$976.43 YTD); \$28,240.88 matures 9/22/2010 (Earning 4.50% \$1,687.65 YTD).

Linda Wayne made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report and pay per-diem and bills as presented, supported by Al Dimon. Roll call vote: Linda Wayne-yes, Al Dimon-yes, Al McCullen-not present, Aaron Bowron-yes, Lon Husbands-yes, Mike Ascione-yes, Jim Jesse-yes. Motion carried.

TRAVERSE BAY EDC REPORT

Tino Breithaupt of the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce Traverse Bay Economic Development Corporation (TBEDC) gave a review of their activities for 2009 noting that 218 hours were spent on Kalkaska County with retention visits, meeting attendance, broadband initiative, administrative, etc.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2010

Al Dimon asked for nominations for Chairman. Aaron Bowron nominated Jim Jesse, supported by Linda Wayne. Nominations were closed on motion made by Al Dimon and supported by Linda Wayne. All in favor; Jim Jesse was elected Chairman.

For the position of Vice Chair Jim Jesse nominated Aaron Bowron, supported by Linda Wayne. Nominations were closed on a motion made by Al McCullen and supported by Mike Ascione. All in favor; Aaron Bowron was elected Vice Chair.

For the position of Treasurer Jim Jesse nominated Linda Wayne with support from by Al Dimon. Nominations were closed on a motion made by Lon Husbands, supported by Mike Ascione. All in favor; Linda Wayne was elected Treasurer.

For the position of Secretary, Jim Jesse nominated Al Dimon, supported by Lon Husbands. Nominations were closed on a motion made by Mike Ascione, supported by Aaron Bowron. All in favor-Al Dimon was elected Secretary.

The 2010 slate of officers for a one year term is as follows:

Chair – Jim Jesse
Vice-Chair – Aaron Bowron
Treasurer – Linda Wayne
Secretary – Al Dimon

RECOVERY ZONE BONDS

Tino Breithaupt reviewed information included in the agenda packet from MichiganAdvantage.org explaining the American Recovery Reinvestment Bond Act (ARRA), the programs included and how they may affect a county. Discussion followed. There was discussion on what action would need to be taken by Kalkaska County to implement this in Kalkaska County. Breithaupt explained that the County would need to take action to establish the Recovery Zone.

Jesse distributed for approval a draft letter from him as Chair of the Economic Development Corporation of Kalkaska County encouraging the Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners to take action to declare their entire jurisdiction a “Designated Recovery Zone” under the ARRA. Bowron made a motion that Kalkaska County EDC endorse and approve the letter to the Kalkaska Board of Commissioners. Support by Linda Wayne. All yeas; motion carried. Deb Kimball, County Commissioner, will deliver the signed letter to the Kalkaska Board of Commissioners at their next.

PUBLIC INPUT

Jim Austin of Kalkaska Memorial Health Center (KMHC) provided an update on the joint EDC/DDA/Chamber luncheon. Food will be provided by KMHC. No decision has been made on location to date, however the luncheon date is March 23rd. Jim Jesse thanked Mr. Austin for providing the food for this event. After discussion it was decided to have the DDA, EDC and Chamber will all do a presentation. Each group would also have a table display. However, decision regarding who and how much to charge for the luncheon remains.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Brownfield Taskforce Report – Nothing to report.

Consortium Committee – Nothing to report.

Executive Committee – Jim Jesse read Virginia Lee’s Letter of Resignation. He asked that Aaron Bowron come up with a letter to send to Virginia and a copy to Deborah Hill, thanking Virginia for her service, etc.

Fundraising Committee – Al McCullen reported that some fundraising work has been done but he is still trying to locate records from the past Fundraising Committee activities.

Loan Committee – Linda Wayne is currently working with a business that is in the process of filling out an application. Jesse noted that Wayne needs to be bonded. Wayne will research this. Jesse mentioned that the new criteria and loan documents need to be added to the website. Bowron suggested using the TBEDC's form as a template.

Personnel Committee – Al Dimon stated that a meeting needs to take place to take action replace Virginia Lee who has resigned her position on the board. The suggestion was made to explore having a high school student serve as an ex-officio member.

Public Relations Committee –Aaron Bowron suggested sending out a press release on the luncheon to get some exposure and PR for this event.

OLD BUSINESS

Lou Nemeth and Tino Breithaupt gave status an update on the Broadband Initiative. Phase 1 is now complete. This phase enables us to know where there is broadband service, the underserved area, where the underserved markets are and understand who the providers are to those areas. This has been done in all four counties. Phase 2 would bring all of this information together to get a market overview of the four counties. Breithaupt explained in greater detail the progress of Phase II .

Lou Nemeth discussed the Grand Vision Investment packet.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Jesse mentioned that he would like to return to holding the Kalkaska EDC meetings every month instead of every other month as was decided at the December 2009 meeting. Aaron Bowron made a motion to move the meetings to a monthly schedule of meeting on the first Tuesday with support by Linda Wayne. Majority in favor-motion carried.

Bowron mentioned that a group such as the TBEDC is trying to do more with less. One way to help with this is administratively by using teleconferencing whenever possible. Breithaupt shared his concerns on moving the meetings back to once a month, stating that the TBEDC is heavily taxed in many different directions to the extent that there are meetings being held just because it's on the schedule. If there's no reason to meet, then look to cancel that meeting. Breithaupt mentioned that the current arranging of having two staff people attend today's meeting as well as travel time totals four hours per person, multiplied by 12 meetings a year. This is in addition to administrative prep work that has to be done in preparation for meetings which includes gathering the meeting materials and efficiently distributing them to make meetings effective. Breithaupt suggested that for a wise and efficient use of time, in instances where few or non-emergency topics submitted for inclusion in the agenda, that the meeting be canceled and those items carry to the next month's meeting agenda. Jesse stated that going forward he will contact the TBEDC a couple of weeks before the scheduled meeting date to discuss and arrange the agenda at which point decision will be made on whether there is enough material to warrant a meeting. Jesse will notify the board if a meeting is canceled.

With no other business, Chairman Jesse thanked Jim Austin, Lou Nemeth and Tino Breithaupt for their information and discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by Al Dimon to adjourn the meeting, and supported by Linda Wayne, the meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andi Wagenschutz